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STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES RECEIVING REFUGEES FROM RWANDA

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question entitled "Special assistance to countries receiving refugees from Rwanda",

Bearing in mind the serious crisis which has shaken Rwanda to its very foundations,

Deeply concerned about the massive presence of Rwandese refugees and displaced persons in the territories of neighbouring countries, namely, Burundi, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire,

Concerned about the devastating impact of these massive flows of refugees on the basic infrastructures and on the life and property of local populations in the States which are neighbours of Rwanda,

Bearing also in mind the large-scale material destruction, the profound deterioration of economic, social and health infrastructures and the ecological devastation in the areas where Rwandese refugees are received,

Gravely concerned by the effects which epidemics in those areas are having on the health of the local populations of the countries receiving Rwandese refugees,

Observing that the aid dispatched to the aforementioned areas does not always take into consideration the scale of the needs of the local populations,

Recognizing that the countries receiving Rwandese refugees, all of them least developed countries, continue to experience an extremely critical economic situation,

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments of the countries receiving Rwandese refugees for the sacrifices which they are making in granting refuge and hospitality to the aforementioned refugees,

Concerned about the paucity of the aid granted to the local populations of the countries receiving Rwandese refugees and stressing the need to continue providing and to step up special assistance to the aforementioned countries,

1. Expresses its deep concern at the grave social, economic, health and ecological impact of the massive and unexpected presence of refugees in countries which are neighbours of Rwanda;

2. Commends the Governments of Burundi, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zaire for the sacrifices which they have made and for their continuing commitment to do their utmost to assist the Rwandese refugees, notwithstanding the constraints which their limited resources place upon them;

3. Urges all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial and development institutions to provide, on a priority basis, all possible financial, technical and material assistance with a view to facilitating the restoration of the basic services destroyed in the countries receiving Rwandese refugees;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fiftieth session a report on the follow-up to this resolution.